

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 090910
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
DODE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 OMB-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA: COL. HOLTZCLAW:AIE
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM: EREHFELD
EUR/CE: MHUMPHREY
OSD/ISA: MGLITMAN

-----231417Z 095080 /45

R 221541Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090910

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:NATO, AWACS, MILI

SUBJECT:NATO AWACS: DIALOGUE WITH FRG

REF: BONN 06339

1. WE FIND REFERENCED MESSAGE TO BE A VERY USEFUL INITIA-
TIVE WHICH PROVIDES THOUGHTFUL SUMMARY OF CURRENT FRG
PERSPECTIVE ON NATO AWACS, IN LIGHT OF UK WITHDRAWAL IN
FAVOR OF NIMROD.

2. CONCERNING PARA 12 OF REF, AND YOUR REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE
ON THE BASIS OF OUR EVALUATION OF ALLIANCE PROSPECTS FOR
E3A SYSTEM: WE REMAIN CONVINCED OF THE NECESSITY OF AN
AWACS CAPABILITY FOR AN ADEQUATE NATO DEFENSE. WE BELIEVE
FRG SHARES THIS VIEW AND, BASED UPON BUNDESTAG APPROVAL BY
THE END OF THE YEAR, WE BELIEVE THAT ALLIANCE ADOPTION IN A
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SIMILAR TIMEFRAME IS STILL A FEASIBLE GOAL- UNTIL MINIS-
TERIAL GUIDANCE IS REVISED WE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT
JULY 1 AS A TARGET DATE FOR AN AGREED PROGRAM. FYI: WE ARE
FLEXIBLE ON THIS POINT, HOWEVER, AND WOULD SEEK US/FRG
AGREEMENT ON ANY REVISION OF ALLIANCE TARGET DATES AND
COMMON ANSWERS TO PROBLEMS RELATED TO RESTRUCTURED PROGRAM.
END FYI.

THE NATO PROGRAM OFFICE IS PREPARING A RESTRUCTURED PROGRAM BASED UPON A MIXED FORCE OF E3A AND NIMROD. AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, OTHER FRG CONCERNS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN DETAIL (E.G. FIRMER ACQUISITION AND OPERATIONAL COSTS, BASING, OPERATIONAL CONCEPTS, INTERFACE WITH NADGE). PROPOSAL WILL INCLUDE OPTION OF FRENCH PARTICIPATION.

WHILE WE ARE MINDFUL OF THE POSSIBILITY OF DELAY, WE SUPPORT (INDEED HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE) LEBER'S IEPG CONSIDERATION OF NATO AWACS, AND HOPE THAT THE GROUP CAN MEET AND PROVIDE A POSITIVE REPORT BY THE MAY DPC, INCLUDING EVALUATION OF PROSPECTS FOR FRENCH PARTICIPATION. FYI: IN RESPONSE TO AN ITALIAN QUERY WE HAVE ADVISED GOI OF THIS US POSITION. END FYI.

AT MINIMUM, MAY MINISTERIALS SHOULD REAFFIRM MARCH 25 COMMITMENTS, MAKING THEM APPLICABLE TO A MIXED FORCE.

DESPITE UK NIMROD DECISION, US WILL TRY TO KEEP FOCUS ON A NATO AWACS SYSTEM WITH BROAD-ST POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION. BASED UPON HIGH-LEVEL UK COMMITMENT, NIMROD INTEROPERABILITY WITH ALLIANCE SYSTEM IS PRIMARILY A UK RESPONSIBILITY.

FINALLY, WE WOULD UNDERScore BRANDT'S OBSERVATION THAT, NO MATTER WHAT AWACS COSTS, A FUTURE AEW SYSTEM OF SIMILAR EFFICIENCY MIGHT WELL COST MORE. WE MIGHT ALSO ADD--BE MORE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

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DRAFTED BY:EUR:RPM:DSKINNEY

APPROVED BY:EUR:RPM:WSHINN, JR.

-----290812Z 045370 /20

R 290447Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME 6429

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090910

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM SECSTATE WASHDC DATED APRIL 22, 1977
SENT BONN INFO NATO IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AWACS, AIR DEFENSE, ALLIANCE, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, POLICIES, RADAR, WARNING SYSTEMS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: COL. HOLTZCLAW:AIE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770428/aaaaaxrr.tel
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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SAS ID: 2719406
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO AWACS: DIALOGUE WITH FRG
TAGS: MILI, US, GE, NATO
To: BONN
Type: TE
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